



WINTER NEWS LETTER ☆ FEBRUARY, 1949

## Our New President

The Society is to be congratulated on its choice of president for the coming year. Research into his life history brings to light the following data.

Richard W. Westwood was born in Newtonville, Massachusetts, fifty-three years ago. After attending the Columbia University School of Journalism, he served in the French and United States Armies in World War I, acquiring a piece of Austrian 77 in his knee, some medals, and a good command of French. Upon his return he worked on the New London, Connecticut, Telegraph, Providence Journal, and lastly on the Christian Science Monitor, where he devoted all his time to the Conservation theme.

In 1923 he came to the American Nature Association as editor of the Nature Magazine and assistant secretary of the association. He compiled the first edition of the Forestry Almanac, now known as the Forestry Directory. Most of his writing at present is for the Nature Magazine and other publications of the American Nature Association where he has made many contributions in the field of Nature and Conservation Education. He is now president of the American Nature Association as well as editor of the Nature Magazine.

In addition to his position with the American Nature Association he claims to have been "hornswoggled" into the following: Secretary, Panel on Nature Protection of the United States National Commission for UNESCO; Treasurer, Defender of Furbearers; Trustee, Hawk Mountain Sanctuary; Trustee, W. T. Hornaday Foundation, and Director, National Roadside Council. He is a member of the Biological Society of Washington, Wildlife Society, Outdoor Writers

Association of America, and the National Press Club. He admits, under pressure, that he plays a good game of golf in his spare time. People like to call him "doctor" but he prefers to be considered "just a laborer in the vineyard."

## Membership Notice

Second notices have gone out to all those in arrears for 1949 dues. We want to prepare addressograph plates for all members, so please send your dues to the Secretary at P. O. Box 1078, Chapel Hill, N. C. promptly so as to be included in the active membership list. This will be the last News Letter which will be sent to members in arrears after March 31.

## ANSS Receives Conservation Grant

President Richard W. Westwood has just announced receipt of a special grant of \$1000 from the Charles Lathrop Pack Foundation to facilitate the conservation and nature education program of the Society. The grant was made possible through Arthur Newton Pack, president emeritus of the American Nature Association and formerly editor of Nature Magazine.

This will make it possible to increase the work of the Conservation Committee and the publication of the News Letter. The first issue of the new Conservation Bulletin for members of the Committee has been released. These will become increasingly effective as members contribute information relative to conservation problems which other members and groups can help with. Every member is urged to take part in this important work of the Society.

## Conservation Panel at Washington

World conservation problems were discussed at the panel session of the American Nature Study Society by a panel consisting of William Vogt, Conservation Director of the Pan-American Union, and author of *Road to Survival*; Ira N. Gabrielson, president of the Wildlife Management Institute; Ruth Gilmore, conservation chairman of the Federation of State Garden Clubs; Devereaux Butcher, secretary of the National Parks Association, and Howard Zahniser, secretary of the Wilderness Society. Richard W. Westwood, president of the American Nature Association, presided.

Mr. Vogt reported on the results of the Inter-American Conference on Conservation of Renewable Natural Resources in Denver, pointing out that it was a working conference seeking to fit conservation of resources into the population and economic trends of Central and South America. Rapid inroads are being made into the natural resources of many of these countries and education and conservation policy are important. Mexico, El Salvador and Venezuela have already called national conferences to draft programs.

Dr. Gabrielson described the meeting held in Fontainbleau, France, at which was formed the International Union for the Protection of Nature. This union will disseminate basic conservation information on an international level. Dr. Gabrielson described the new agency as a small first step toward world understanding of the conservation problem.

In the discussion that followed it was brought out that any program of Nature protection must recognize the natural values of land and be combined with appreciation of the esthetic values. Conser-

## AMERICAN NATURE STUDY SOCIETY NEWS LETTER

Affiliated with The National Association of Biology Teachers

Affiliated with The National Science Teachers Association

Affiliated with The American Association for the Advancement of Science

Office of the Secy.-Treas., Richard L. Weaver, Chapel Hill, N. C., Box 1078 Editor of the News Letter, Dwight E. Sollberger, State Teachers College, Indiana, Pa.  
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vation and preservation are two different things, but the latter is important culturally as well as scientifically. Mr. Vogt observed that he was becoming sick of the word "survival," saying that the mental and physical health of the world are at stake and we want a living standard well above the survival level. This must be achieved by facing the facts and meeting them.

Wildlife management came in for considerable discussion, with Dr. Gabrielson criticizing political management and lack of trained personnel in this field. Pressure on game animal life has increased greatly. Mr. Butcher advocated cutting down on the number of the gunners and criticized sport killing and glamorization of the chase. Dr. Gabrielson said that the glamor seems to be demanded by a certain element of the population, and contended that some gunners and fishermen are the most potent wildlife conservationists.

In summary Dr. Gabrielson asserted that the greatest problem is to get the people to know what conservation is and then get them to practice it. Mr. Vogt said that the real problem is to put man back into nature. Miss Gilmore asserted that the city dweller must be given an appreciation and understanding of nature and that the way to do it was to translate conservation into terms of the human "tummy." Mr. Butcher urged an aroused sentiment in defense of national parks and other public reservations threatened by selfish exploitation. Mr. Zahniser emphasized the interdependence of man on nature, and urged consideration of flood control, irrigation, stream valley developments and the like in terms of their effect on the whole population. He felt that we have reason to be optimistic since the conservationist is in the right and therefore in the strongest position.

### Conservation Committee

Doing double duty as president and chairman of the conservation committee of ANSS, Dick Westwood reports plans to get out periodic reports to the committee members. These will be approximately on a monthly basis, but may be more or less frequent as issues arise or information accumulates. Members of the committee at the moment are Mabel L. James, Mary Alice Dietrich, George F. Jenny, Mrs. J. Frank Key, Hazel Fink, Guy Atherton, Ruth Gilmore, Dick Weaver, Dwight E. Sollberger, E. Laurance



Center, Richard W. Westwood; Left, E. L. Palmer; Right, Edwin W. Teale

Palmer, Edwin Way Teale, Virginia R. B. Pickelle, Mrs. D. S. LaDow, Sadie Hecht, Allan H. Bonwill, Pauline James, Helen B. Ross, Charles Mohr, Ruth Hopson and Devereux Butcher.

If any of the members of the committee or ANSS have any releases or other conservation information they would like to have distributed, send copies to Richard W. Westwood, 1214, 16th St., N.W., Washington 6, D. C. Such material can be included in the regular mailings. Dick Westwood feels that the membership in the committee should be larger, and urges anyone interested in being kept advised conservationwise, or willing to exert effort in behalf of conservation to join up. Just drop him a line and you're on the committee.

### Conservation Committee News

ON THE CONGRESSIONAL FRONT — A flood of proposed legislation having some relation to conservation has been introduced and assigned to committee. Here are a few bills to watch: HR.849, introduced by Mr. Hope of Kansas to provide a national agricultural land and water conservation program through creation of an "Agricultural Resources Administration." This is similar to last session's Hope Bill . . . S.35, introduced by Senator McCarran, Nevada, would create a Natural Resources Council to work out a

National Natural Resources policy . . . S. Res. 5, introduced by Senator Cain, Washington, would open up the Olympic Park boundary change issue by creating a Joint Congressional Committee of investigation. (The arguments against boundary change have not changed and the evidence is all in voluminous print.) . . . S. 247, by Senators Thomas, Kilgore, Fulbright, Smith, Cordon and Saltonstall, would establish the National Science Foundation. This is substantially the same as the bill that passed the Senate last session but died in the House. It has been referred to the Senate Committee on Labor and Public Welfare; has good chance of success. Get back of it . . . H. R. 1389, by Mr. LeFevre, New York, authorizes, among other things, appropriation of \$20,000,000, at a rate of \$1,250,000, a year, for acquisition of private land within existing National Parks. It is important that this condition be cleaned up, yet the budget allows only \$300,000, for such acquisition and one-third of this is earmarked for Mammoth Cave National Park. This bill is in the hands of the House Committee on Public Lands, Andrew L. Somers of New York, chairman.

DISTURBING NEWS comes from Alaska that the Territorial Legislature has been memorialized to remove protection from the Alaska brown bear and the sea lion on the ground that they make serious inroads into the salmon. Facts are that the

bear lives mostly off spent and dying, or even dead, salmon, when in the vicinity of the salmon streams, and the sea lion eats mostly squid, octopuses and trash and predatory fish. Cliff Collins, Cordova, Alaska, is leading a somewhat lone fight against this move.

**SOURCE MATERIAL** — The National Committee on Policies in Conservation Education, 1409 Garfield Street, Laramie, Wyoming, has a selected bibliography on conservation for pupils and teachers. Copies may be had for two cents (cheap enough) to cover postage. This is a sort of tentative listing and suggestions and criticisms are invited — indeed, necessary.

**NATIONAL PARKS** — Newton B. Drury, Director of the National Park Service, Department of the Interior, Washington, D. C. prepared for the Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs a comprehensive statement on the National Park Service and its Problems. This is a fine background picture well worth having as a guide to support of the service.

**ROADSIDE CONSERVATION** — If you are interested in rural roadside conservation and billboard control get on the mailing list of the National Roadside Council, 119 East 19th Street, New York City 3, New York.

**INTERNATIONAL HORIZONS** — "New Horizons in International Conservation" is the title of a paper by Harold J. Coolidge, National Research Council, 2101 Constitution Ave., Washington, D. C. It's worth having and reprints are available.

### From the West

The society is fortunate in having an enthusiastic member in Oregon. Ruth E. Hopson has enrolled ten new members and one society as an affiliate. She and Dr. Leo Hadsall have been making plans for the formation of a Pacific Division of the American Nature Study Society, and arranging a program of the ANSS at the June meeting of the AAAS. Members of the society are invited to attend.

### Chapter News

The New York Chapter of the American Nature Study Society reports that they have banded together with nine other organizations to protest damage to the bird swamp and wildlife sanctuary in Van Cortland Park. The area was to be filled in during the preliminary work for the Major Deegan Express Highway. The group also adopted a resolution deploreding the destruction of wild life and condemning as "un-American" the failure of the Park Department to hold public hearings on the matter.

### New Affiliate

The Natural History Society of Eugene (Oregon) has applied for affiliate membership. This club is the first affiliate on the west coast. Mrs. Ruth Richardson, 868-10th, Eugene, is the secretary-treasurer. The society was organized in 1942. It meets monthly and has frequent field trips. The members are from the University of Oregon faculty and the residents of Eugene. Miss Ruth Hopson, who helped organize the club, arranged for them to become an affiliate.

### Conservation Caravan

Next June, as school vacations are starting, there will be seen along the highways and byways of western New York a traveling School of Conservation known as the Conservation Caravan. Though distances covered will not be great, much variety of scenery and many kinds of natural habitat will be seen. Students will obtain a practical introduction to ecology as they explore in turn open woods in limestone areas, steep escarpments, open fields, streambeds, sphagnum bogs and the "rich woods, north" of Gray's Manual of Botany with their heavy stands of beech, birch, maple and hemlock, their orchids and other plant rarities. They will visit sanctuaries, nature trails, school gardens and camps, county forests, state parks, beaver dams, hatcheries, farms and a commercial fishery.

Sponsors of the caravan are the Buffalo Museum of Science and the Conservation Forum of New York State. Co-directors and full time instructors will be Ellsworth Jaeger, Curator of Education at the Museum, naturalist, author, artist and lecturer, and Miss Mabel H. James, field naturalist, research associate in conservation for the museum and chairman of the Conservation Forum. Both, their many followers will testify, are thoroughly at home in the field and are enthusiastic exponents of outdoor education. Miss James served on the teaching staff of Audubon Nature Center, Greenwich, Conn., last summer.

Specialists of the Soil Conservation Service and of the State Conservation Department are among the many individuals, services and organizations whose volunteer aid will greatly enrich the ten-day course of study. Evening meetings in various communities will afford students and the nearby public opportunity to see and hear the best of conservation movies and visiting experts as well as get a summary of each day's educational achievement. Soil and forest conservation, stream management, birds, flowers, animals, insects and trees will be studied outdoors, with follow-up discussions later.

### WHY ARE BIRDS INTERESTING?

By EDWIN WAY TEALE

During the past year or so, I have been conducting a kind of minor Gallup poll. I have been asking my friends why they like birds. These friends range from those who know only the birds that come to feed on crumbs they throw out in their backyards to advanced amateurs like John Kieran and professionals like Roger Peterson and Ludlow Griscom. The answers they have given me are varied and interesting. Here are some of the reasons why people are attracted to the birds.

1. They are everywhere and easy to see. They catch the eye.
2. They are graceful in form and flight.
3. They are colorful.
4. Flowers are colorful, too, but the birds have action as well as color. They move, dart from branch to branch, fly through the air. They have the interest which the active always has over the passive.
5. They are vocal. Birds songs provide the most varied music in the out-of-doors. The thrush and the nightingale are symbols of musical preeminence.
6. Birds seem frail. We often see them persecuted. They have the appeal of the under-dog.
7. Birds are often beneficial. They consume weed seeds and insects. They are fighting on the side of the farmer. They are part of "our army."
8. Their struggles and problems are akin to ours. We see them building homes, raising children, bringing in food, fighting off enemies. The way of the fish or the insect is so foreign to ours that we can have little fellow-feeling for it. But the bird's manner of life parallels our own.
9. Because birds have the gift of flight they seem to be able to leave troubles and annoyances behind. If things get unbearable, they can fly away. There is something about this that has a special appeal to the mind of men who are naturally earthbound.
10. Birds migrate. They cross great stretches of the map. They have about them the appeal of the traveler. There is also mystery in their journeying. How do they find their way, how do they return to the same woodland or apple tree, what guides them through the dark and over the unvarying water of the sea?
11. Frequently, the birds show a response to friendly advances by humans. They come to feeding stations and nest close to human dwellings.
12. There is such an endless variety of forms and colors and habits among birds that the game of identifying them is one of lasting interest — a healthful fresh-air,

outdoor game that can be enjoyed for a lifetime.

## Counselors Available

### Would Like Position in Rockies

A college major in Ornithology who has attended the conservation workshop in Rhode Island and the Audubon Camp in Maine, and who has had camp experience, would like to secure a camp position in the Rocky Mountains next summer.

### Oberlin College Student Wants Nature Post

A naturalist enrolled at Oberlin who has attended the Audubon Nature Center at Greenwich for several years and is very much interested in birds, plants and geology, is interested in employment as a nature counselor.

### Naturalist Lecturer Photographer Seeks Right Camp Situation

An experienced camper with interests in photography and all phases of natural history would like to organize an outdoor nature program in a camp where nature and real camping will be emphasized. He is qualified to assist in setting up a new camp. Would also be interested in a year-round program of camping and outdoor education.

Address all requests for additional information to:

Richard L. Weaver  
P. O. Box 1078  
Chapel Hill, N. C.

## NSTA Affiliated Group Sheet

The following are the consultants of the American Nature Study Society who are authorized to meet with the National Science Teachers Association for the purpose of better integrating the work of the two societies. It is hoped that much good will come to this relation and the work of both organizations. Members who have suggestions should send them to the consultants.

### ANSS Consultants

- Charles E. Mohr, Audubon Nature Center, Greenwich, Conn.
- George J. Free, Penn State College, State College, Pa.
- Eva L. Gordon, Farnow Hall, Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y.
- Helen Ross, Farnow Hall, Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y.
- Leo Hadsall, State Teachers College, Fresno, Calif.
- Richard Weaver, P. O. Box 1078, Chapel Hill, N. C.

## Camp Leadership Course For Colleges and Universities

The Leadership Training Committee of the American Camping Association has published a 32 page bulletin dealing with the problem of Counselor Leadership in Camps. The bulletin contains chapters dealing with General Camp Counseling, Campcraft, Nature and Woods-care and Informal Group Activities, Camp Administration and Resource Material. Copies may be secured from the American Camping Association, 343 South Dearborn Street, Chicago 4, Illinois. Price, \$1.00.

## Kodachrome Slides

Wards have announced a new series of Wild Flowers of Spring, Summer and Autumn. Over two hundred slides are included in the sets. Friends of the society will be interested to know that the slides were prepared by T. Lyle Keith, a fellow member, while the scripts were prepared by Marion S. Keith. Those attending the Washington meeting saw some of Mr. Keith's work in the informal showing of kodachrome slides.

## New Members Since January, 1949

- Bartlett, H. May, 309 Mountain Road, Moncton, N. B., Canada  
Bennighof, Prof. C. L., 31 Ridge Road, Westminster, Md.  
Booth, Mrs. R. V. D., R.F.D. 3, Johnnycake Ridge, Painesville, Ohio  
Borden, Miss Crews, Nashville Children's Museum, 724 Second St.-South, Nashville 10, Tennessee  
Brown, Ralph C., 12354 Wyoming, Detroit 4, Michigan  
Braem, Helen R., Glenny House, Sonyea, New York  
Cornfoot, Richard, 95 Oakland Ave., Wollaston 70, Mass.  
Cunningham, Harry A., Biology Dept., Kent State University, Kent, Ohio  
Decker, Helene, North Bridgton, Maine  
Duguid, Sarah Jane, 16 Oak St., Grafton, Mass.  
Fluck, Dr. Paul H., 73 N. Union St., Lambertville, N. J.  
Foote, Mrs. Alice H., 1812 W. 5th St., Dunellen, N. J.  
Freeman, Miss Claire, D-201 Baylan Apts., Raleigh, N. C.  
Geibel, Marguerite A., 127 Mercer Street, Butler, Pa.  
Gordon, Dr. Kenneth, Zoology Department, O.S.C., Corvallis, Oregon  
Gordon, Mrs. Virginia, Zoology Department, O.S.C., Corvallis, Oregon  
Hollis, Mrs. R. H., 245 S. Gill St., State College, Pa.  
Hopwood, Mildred H., Yerkes, Pa.  
Horwath, Miss Ann B., 12 Hastings Avenue, Willoughby, Ohio  
Laidlaw, James T., R.F.D., South Coventry, Connecticut  
Leavitt, Mrs. E. P., 1317 Queen Anne, Medford, Oregon

- Lilly, Genevieve, 139 Main St., Brocton, New York  
Mankin, H. A., 15756 Westbrook, Zone 23, Detroit, Mich.  
Meadows, Hanie, Talcott, West Virginia  
Mellinger, C. L., High School, Atlantic City, New Jersey  
Morgan, The Rev. A. Rufus, Box 319, Franklin, N. C.  
Newsom, Mrs. Francis, 708 E. 11th, Eugene, Oregon  
Pletcher, Marion A., 704 State St., Charlevoix, Michigan  
Poole, Mrs. G. D., 238 Henryday Blvd., Lexington, Ky.  
Pruitt, Ben, Rt. 2, Box 61, Springfield, Oregon  
Richardson, Joyce E., Mio, Michigan  
Ritsema, Louise, 225½ Michigan Ave., South Haven, Michigan  
Russell, Ruth L., 160 Milbank Ave., Greenwich, Conn.  
Sawer, Harold A., 15506 Kentucky, Detroit 21, Michigan  
Shomon, Joseph J., 826 E. 45th St., Richmond, Virginia  
Simon, Lotus, Zoology Dept., University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin  
Slater, H. Elizabeth, 8720 Colesville Rd., Silver Spring, Md.  
Smithers, Mrs. Carrie L., Route No. 3, Glenwood Rd., Perrysburg, Ohio  
Spratt, Miss Barnett, 417 N. Blount, Raleigh, N. C.  
Stone, Calvin K., 16584 Avon Rd., Detroit 19, Michigan  
Stone, Rudolph H., 505 Bedford Road, Schenectady 8, New York  
Sullivan, Virginia S. (Mrs. Harold A.), 250 West Norwalk Rd., Darien, Connecticut  
Thayer, Miss Mildred N., 4 High Street, Brewer, Maine  
Tinkham, Barbara, 61 Wood St., Middleboro, Mass.  
Toy, S. P., St. Petersburg, Pennsylvania  
Trimble, Neil, Clifton, Illinois (also Fenner High School, 11220 Wallace St., Chicago, Illinois)  
Woerpel, Mrs. Anni, 40 Lloyd St., New Hyde Park, Long Island, New York  
Woolfenden, Glen, 748 St. Marks Avenue, Westfield, New Jersey

## From the Membership Application Cards of New Members

**Lotus Simon** is a graduate assistant in the Department of Zoology at the University of Wisconsin where she received her Master's degree, after attending Reed College, Portland, Oregon. She has attended the Hopkins Marine Station.

**Mrs. Carrie L. Smithers** teaches grade 6 at Glenwood School, Perrysburg, Ohio. She graduated from Bowling Green University and Toledo University.

**Helen Decker** is a fourth grade teacher and leader of an Audubon Club. She has a B.S. in Education from Farmington and Gorham State Teachers College in Maine.

**Joyce E. Richardson** is a junior at Michigan State College and has attended the Maine Audubon Camp.

**Helen R. Braem** is an instructor at the State Teachers College, Geneseo, New York. She has her Master's from New York University.

**Richard G. Miller**, a graduate of Principia College with a Master's from Cornell University, is an instructor at the University of Nevada.

**Lester A. Giles, Jr.**, a graduate of the University of Massachusetts, is an assistant curator at the Stamford, Connecticut Museum.

